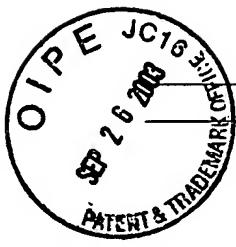


JFW



PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 04148-00031

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Jia Ping Li, Pierre Jean François Layrolle, and)
Klaas de Groot) Examiner:
Serial No.: 10/647,022)
Filed: August 18, 2003) Art Unit:
Title: POROUS METALS AND METAL)
COATINGS FOR IMPLANTS)

Commissioner for Patents
Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

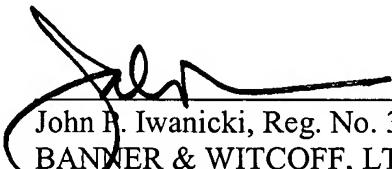
In regard to the above identified application, we are transmitting herewith the attached:

1. Preliminary Amendment (3 pages),
2. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages),
3. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages),
4. Copies of seventeen (17) references, and
5. Return postcard.

With respect to additional fees, no additional fee is required. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 26, 2003


John R. Iwanicki, Reg. No. 34,628
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